

Message Text

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73

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 OIC-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 H-02 /061 W

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R 291700Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5411

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANTIAGO 7223

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, OAS, CI

SUBJECT: OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN SANTIAGO?

1. AT SOCIAL AFFAIR OCT 28 AMBASSADOR ASKED SENIOR FONOFF
POLITICAL ADVISER ENRIQUE BERNSTEIN WHAT HE THOUGHT THE PROSPECTS
WERE FOR THE GOC PROPOSAL TO HOLD APRIL 1976 OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY
IN SANTIAGO.

2. BERNSTEIN SAID THEY WERE RATHER POOR. ALTHOUGH ONLY TWO
COUNTRIES, MEXICO AND JAMAICA, HAD OPENLY OPPOSED THE PROPOSAL,
THE GENERAL REACTION HAD NOT BEEN PARTICULARLY GOOD.

3. BERNSTEIN CONFIRMED THAT NO OTHER COUNTRY HAD OFFERED TO
HOST THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WITHIN THE PRESCRIBED TIME PERIOD.
HE THOUGHT THAT IF NOTHING WERE DONE THE SITUATION WOULD BECOME
INCREASINGLY AWKWARD. PICKING UP A SUGGESTION WE HAD HEARD BEFORE,
HE REMARKED THAT IT WOULD BE A "GRACEFUL OUTCOME" IF THE UNITED
STATES -- AS A SPECIAL MEASURE IN CONNECTION WITH THE BICENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION -- WERE TO PROPOSE THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BE
CONVENED IN PHILADELPHIA JULY 4, 1976.

4. BERNSTEIN RECOGNIZES THAT, HAVING HOSTED THE ATLANTA UNGA
SO RECENTLY, THE US WOULD NOT NORMALLY SEEK TO DO SO AGAIN AT
THIS TIME. BUT HE POINTS OUT THAT A BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION IS
A ONE-TIME THING.

5. COMMENT: WE GAVE BERNSTEIN NO ENCOURAGEMENT. WOULD BE INTERESTED
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TO LEARN WHAT IF ANY PROGRESS IS BEING MADE IN SOLVING THE SITE

PROBLEM.

POPPER

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